

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Duluth Campus

Medical School Duluth

*1035 University Drive
Duluth, MN 55812-3031*

*Office: 218-726-7922
Fax: 218-726-8014
<http://www.med.umn.edu>*

July 12, 2017

TO: Hon. John Barrasso, Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman

CC: [Matt Leggett@epw.senate.gov](mailto:Matt.Leggett@epw.senate.gov).

RE: Dr. Michael Dourson nomination

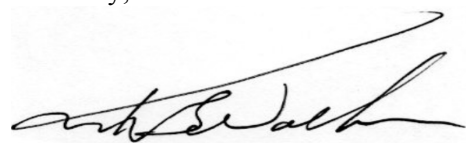
I am pleased to provide a letter in strong support of the nomination of Dr. Michael Dourson for Assistant Administrator of the EPA Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. I have known and worked with Dr. Dourson on a number of professional committees for more than 25 years and am quite familiar with his scientific credentials and personal integrity.

My personal background is that I received my graduate training at Michigan State University and completed a NIH-sponsored Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Iowa Toxicology Center before joining the faculty of the University of Minnesota Medical School on the Duluth campus in 1981. Since then I have been awarded tenure and been promoted to Full Professor, served as founding director of both the University of Minnesota Toxicology Graduate Program and the Chemical Toxicology Research Center as well as interim department chair and Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs. In professional circles I have been elected as President of the Society of Toxicology, Chair of the American Board of Toxicology, and President of the Academy of Toxicology. I have served on a number of scientific advisory panels for NIH, the FDA and the EPA and as co-Editor-in-Chief of Toxicology since 2001. This experience has provided me ample opportunities to work with and come to know a number of professional colleagues, including Dr. Dourson.

Dr. Dourson received his graduate training in toxicology at the University of Cincinnati, a premier and nationally recognized center of excellence for occupational and regulatory toxicology before launching his career in regulatory toxicology at the U.S. EPA. Dr. Dourson leveraged that experience at EPA in founding TERA, a non-profit organization dedicated to developing new methods and models for conducting risk assessment and to promoting the scientific foundations to risk assessment theory and application. As Director of TERA for 21 years, Dr. Dourson successfully cultivated international recognition amongst his peers for his contributions and accomplishments in risk assessment science. Testament to his success is the awarding by his peers of numerous awards of recognition by various professional organizations and societies, highlighted by the Society of Toxicology Arnold J. Lehman Award and the International Achievement Award by the International Society of Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology, among many others. It is clear that he has earned broad, international respect and recognition as one of the most prominent thought leaders in the science of Risk Assessment.

On a personal level, I find Dr. Dourson to be exceptionally pleasant to work with. He is not only a wealthy resource of scientific information and professional networking, but he also adds thoughtful and challenging perspective to the discussions; And he does so in a highly respectful and engaging manner. He manages the discussion to encourage all voices and differences to be heard and respected, without distracting from the efficient conclusion in reaching a general consensus amongst all discussants. Dr. Dourson is one of the first persons I turn to when in need of thoughtful opinion and collegial discussion of issues relating to risk assessment science. I consider him to be a scientific leader and personal friend and strongly endorse his nomination for Assistant Administrator of the EPA Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. I believe he has the scientific and technical knowledge as well as the professional and personal acumen to excel in the duties of the position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kendall B. Wallace', written over a light blue rectangular background.

Kendall B. Wallace, Ph.D., DABT, ATS
Professor, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology